

Hawaiian Gazette.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

PUBLISHED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS.

WALTER G. SMITH, EDITOR.

TUESDAY, JULY 24, 1900.

CONTACT WITH LEPROSY.

The calm and impartial story told by our staff representative of his visit to the leper settlement proves the absolute truth of the statement that segregation does not segregate. The unfortunate who have leprosy are indeed held captive at Molokai but there are no precautions taken to keep their bacilli there. When people from uninfected districts are permitted to land at the leper village and hug and kiss their diseased friends, eat and drink with them and gather in affectionate family groups, it is not necessary to ask why leprosy hangs on in these islands. Were chains of infection followed up as they were in plague times here, the Board of Health would probably find that the liberties allowed relatives with leprosy far gone in the disease account for a definite percentage of the new cases.

We are aware of the argument that leprosy is neither infectious nor contagious, but who knows that to be a scientific certainty? To be sure, many people mingle with lepers and come away uninfected but so they do with bubonic and cholera and yellow fever patients. It depends upon physical susceptibility. Two persons do not always catch the same disease though exposed to it in the same way. Were it true that leprosy cannot be "caught" like small-pox then three out of four reasons for the existence of a leper settlement at Molokai go by the board. But that it can be caught as Father Damien and hosts of others presumably caught it—by personal contact with the victims of the scaly plague—is a hypothesis so reasonable that nine out of ten people accept it as a matter of course.

When the segregation law was passed there had been the usual compromise for legislative votes and among them were certain relaxations of proper sanitary rules. Parents could not bear to be forever parted from their children in this life, husbands from wives and wives from husbands and so, to get any kind of segregation at all, it was thought necessary to permit more or less social intercourse between the lepers and their kin. Under an arbitrary government such fatal concessions would not have been thought of. The lepers would have been banished from the sight of all save those who would accept perpetual exile with them and the agents of the Government having them in charge. But in this parliamentary country votes had to be looked for and as a result we got a half-way segregation law in which the quarantine value is reduced to low figures. It is time that the law was made as strict as those which were enforced in Honolulu against the cholera and the bubonic plague. If such a change can be had the Advertiser does not doubt that in less than a generation there will be no more leprosy in Hawaii. The type we have is growing milder; improved sanitation has perhaps decreased the percentage of infection; what remains is to see that people in health are not permitted to come into contact with those upon whom decay has set its dreadful seal. The man of Scripture who prayed to be relieved of "the body of this death"—the festering corpse which, in those barbaric days was tied to the person of the living convict—had no more cause to lament than have the poor creatures who, all unwittingly, and deceived perhaps by the specious plea that leprosy is not infectious, take into their loving arms those whose bodies, though alive, already bear the marks of putrefaction and whose breath comes from the grave. These people should be protected against themselves; the communities where they live should be protected against such infection as they now invite at Kalaupapa and in Honolulu itself when the newly-discovered lepers gather at the wharf for their last earthly voyage. Otherwise segregation has little else to commend it than the plea of palliation and the desire to thrust hideous things from common view.

IDLE JAPANESE.

The Japanese loafer is always a nuisance and he is becoming a danger. At Hilo where the runaway or discharged plantation laborers gather, the Oriental quarter is full to overflowing. The character of the new-comers is described in the Tribune as that of touts, pimps, gamblers, sneak-thieves, bummers and dead beats. This being the case Hilo has acquired more than her proportion of the dangerous classes and, if the ferment among plantation hands on the big island becomes irrepressible the town may find itself in so bad a way as to require special precautions to insure public order.

Honolulu is not having much trouble yet, although the number of idle Japanese is increasing week by week. Laborers who want to exchange the toil of the cane field for the delights of the town are arriving on foot, on the cars and on the steamers. So far most of them have been quiet, though last night the Advertiser was rung up by a gentleman who said that drunken Japanese coolies were calling at houses on King street near the Waikiki turn and demanding work, growing unruly when it was refused them. Naturally the more idle coolies in town the greater the likelihood of such unpleasant visitations.

The remedy seems to be to enforce the vagrancy laws without giving the coolie much benefit of the doubt. It would be better to take that course now than to wait until the number of loafers is doubled or tripled—better for the city and better for the planters.

When the war is over in China the position of the missionaries will be better than ever before. After the punishment which followed the massacre of nuns at Tien-Tsin in 1860, religious work went on for many years without interruption. If the powers do their duty now the era of missionary persecution will end for good.

AS TO MORE GOVERNMENT.

It is an issue whether the rural districts of these islands should be benefited by the extension of municipal government at Hilo and Honolulu. At present the territorial revenues from these cities go into a common pool from which various and sundry taxes are levied for the benefit of the whole island. If a road system were built on modern lines all over Maui or Hawaii, for example, the cost would be nearly half defrayed by the two big towns of the group. That is because these towns pay an inconsiderable part of the taxes that make up the general fund. But under the municipal and county systems each separate body of taxpayers must devote its money to the needs of purely local needs, which means that about half a million dollars of the present revenues would find their way into the city treasuries of Honolulu and Hilo. Naturally the rural taxes, providing the people went in for public works such as village street improvements, water works, county roads and the like would have to be quadrupled and we should soon see all the rural districts carrying a heavy bonded debt.

From the point of view of citizens of Honolulu and Hilo a municipal form of government would enable them to save their large revenues for their own use, except the small percentage that goes to the support of the Territorial Government and the Legislature. At the same time the body of taxpayers would be easily increased. In the place of a Superintendent of Public Works we might expect to get a Board of Public Works; in place of an Attorney General having oversight of police business we would probably have a Board of Police Commissioners. Municipal charters always multiply offices because the people who, as a rule, want city governments, who do the most to get them and who commonly succeed in the effort are after patronage to use in politics. They create as many offices as they dare to, inclusive of Boards of Aldermen and an enlarged police force. County government with its big personnel is also implied. So even though there is more money to spend there are more people on whom to spend it; and as a usual thing, no matter what civic revenues may grow to be, an eventual deficit is created. Where is the municipality with a surplus? The politicians who hold the offices naturally want to be re-elected; to be re-elected they must give jobs to "the push," to give jobs to "the push" they must go extensively into public works without reference to the need of them. A municipal debt follows but the bad political effect of this is generally neutralized by a bonding program in which the burden of payment is foisted on posterity.

The question comes down to this: Do we need three sets of officials, territorial, county and municipal, when we are getting along nicely with one set? Do we want county and municipal government badly enough to permit taxes, in town and country, to be quadrupled? Are we willing to indulge the luxury of a swollen pay roll to be used in the political undertakings of bosses. Furthermore is it not common sense to let well enough alone?

HEALTH AND CLIMATE.

The question asked by a correspondent if the Hawaiian climate is bad for women may be answered in a way by the statement that there is no Hawaiian climate. Each geographical subdivision of the group has its own climate; in some places, owing to altitude, a bracing and crisp one; in another a climate of actual snow and ice; in another the climate of the sub-tropics and in still another the dank and miasmatic heats of the true tropics. Even the difference between one part and another of Honolulu is easily perceptible. There are women and men too who fall sick on the plains and thrive in the Nuuanu valley and would thrive still better on the heights of Tantalus. And speaking of Tantalus it is true that five hundred miles of California latitude, counting north from the frontier of Lower California, do not make so much difference in climate as lies between Fort street and the nearby and easily accessible crest of that delectable mountain.

The consensus of opinion among doctors seems to be that Honolulu has spoiled the emollient qualities in its climate by insanitation; but some of them hold that when cesspools are abolished and the sewer operated, we shall recover our physical tone. Perhaps. But the remark of one doctor that Honolulu air is miasmatic by night points to another and more serious source of danger and that is the semicircle of flooded land in the embrace of which Honoluluans make their homes. Think of building a city in a swamp or on an island in a swamp. Every doctor would advise against such a course or call it suicidal; yet what is the difference, hygienically, between building a city in a swamp and building a swamp about a city? This last is what we have done in Honolulu. We have deliberately surrendered our suburbs in many directions, to the rice field and the taro patch; have created a boundless contiguity of marsh where the frog croaks and the poisonous mists arise every warm night. There is a small oftentimes on King street at three o'clock in the morning when the wind is southerly, that reminds one of the Bayou Teche country in Louisiana or the everglades of the Florida peninsula and which prompts the hope that the authorities will, before we get malaria, adopt the Savannah plan and prohibit the flooding of land for agricultural purposes at any place within three miles from city limits.

We note the advice of one doctor that women should go to the Coast every year or two for a few months and recover from the effects of local enervation. The prescription is one the most women would like to take. So is a trip to Paris or to the fabled Norway. But every woman cannot pack up when the doctor orders and go even to California. Many women cannot bear the expense; some cannot leave young children or invalid relatives; others do not want to turn their husbands over to a boarding house annually or biennially while they go away "for months." Those who can take the California cure as a regular thing may not be one in a hundred. What is to be done for the multitude of stay-at-homes?

The man who will build a commodious hotel with cottages annexed on the top of Tantalus or on some near-by elevation, make its rates reasonable and access easy and cheap will help solve the problem; the next man who will put a hotel of the same character on the slopes of Haleakala, 5000 feet above sea level, will also confer a boon on enervated islanders and after that the man who makes the snow line over on Hawaii accessible to health-seekers will round out the sum of hygienic achievement in hotel building. The point is that these islands, properly opened up, would give one all the climatic change that ill-health might require. Feeling badly from humid lowland heats a man or woman could simply ride up hill until the right climate was found. Nothing could be simpler or, with money spent on roads and hotels, more practicable.

THE MARINE PARK.

The Navy does not need the city's water-front park. The place is too much exposed for naval purposes and within a year or two Congress may open Pearl Harbor. The city park was taken over by the Navy Department because it bordered deep water and seemed to be lying around loose. We doubt that it would have been so segregated if the Government had known what the public wanted it for and what they had determined, under the author-

ity of a legislative enactment, to do with it.

Unless the park is recovered and devoted to the use originally named, the citizens of Honolulu will have no way to reach the seashore within city limits save by going to some hotel preserve, traversing private property or making use of the shadeless beach road which skirts the shallows of the broad reef. The marine park is handy for everyone; it is exceptionally well placed for sea and mountain views and if laid out with lawn and trees would become the favorite recreation ground of the people.

A petition to the President is in order. So good a cause as the recovery of our seaside park deserves united public action. Why would it not be well for the Chamber of Commerce to pass a resolution and follow it up with a memorial, which the citizens would generally sign? That might bring things to a focus at Washington in short order.

LOCAL FINANCES.

The financial strain having been clearly explained in the commercial column of this paper there is a visible sense of relief in the business community. It is the mysterious that scares and the stringency in island finances ceased to be a mystery when it came to be analyzed in cold type. The fact simply is that we have gone ahead a bit fast with development but it is also true that we have a \$25,000,000 sugar crop the returns from which, when they are fully in, will set the islands on their financial feet again. Between now and January 1st, \$15,000,000 should arrive as revenue from sugar shipments besides very large amounts for the sale of stock. In the next thirty days \$500,000 will be released from the Postal Savings Department. Bonds are being offered abroad with every prospect of success; money is coming here in large blocks for investment. Whatever the present may be the immediate future outlook is good.

Hawaii may be compared to a very rich man who has spent his income too fast and must be patient until the next dividend day comes around. Circumstances are such that he cannot immediately borrow; he must simply hold on. Fortunately in the local case patience will soon be rewarded for relief is already in sight.

From its loud call for a band we infer that Hilo intends to set its high kicking to music.

Former Governor Taylor wants to speak in Kentucky but he has not been able to arrange for an armored train.

The streets are left in bad condition by sewer contractors, though the wagon and bicycle repair shops are not complaining.

As near as can be learned, Oom Paul's peace overtures are all made with a gun.

The chances are 16 to 1 that Admiral Dewey did not send a message of congratulation to Bryan.

Strikes are plentiful in the East but that is no reflection on the times. Strikes come easy when every striker is sure of another job.

The census shows that the deposits in the Montana banks are rising fast. Does this mean that Senator Clark's campaign of vindication is well under way?

Public sentiment is taking a firm tone on the leprosy question and there is good reason to believe that a way will yet be found to make segregation segregate.

The list of grand and trial jurors summoned for the August term embraces more representative citizens, and those of the best quality, than any similar list we have ever seen published elsewhere. Honolulu has not yet reached the point of turning over its jurors to the crime and politicians.

If the Testa-Kaula Legislature, which we believe is already enacted, doesn't intend to let the United States government have anything to say about these islands it ought to warn McKinley in time and not keep the poor man in suspense.

Some fine trees planted on Tantalus here themselves to death and their owners did not undertake to raise others. With judicious pruning and

thinning out of the fruit these trees would probably have done well. All that is needed here in raising trees is some knowledge of fruit-growing. As for the soil and some of the climates of island they are as well-adapted to the times as are the places in Central America and Tahiti where the fruit is exported.

When both our money and our mails are contaminated at the leper settlement it is no wonder that the scary plague hangs on. Isn't it time to rid Hawaii of the dread disease? Or is it too good a thing, officially and commercially, to maintain a perpetual leper town on Molokai?

The listing of sugar stocks in the New York market would undoubtedly be a good thing for those who have them for sale. As Col. Macfarlane points out, the local and San Francisco markets are congested and the offer of a \$100,000 block of stock, even of a dividend-paying plantation, may cause prices to fall. In New York millions could change hands without bringing on a bear movement.

The Independent is marking out a lively program for the Legislature. It now threatens, in case the United States Government persists in its unholy plan to protect the mails from leprosy, to have the Legislature set the lepers free. Undoubtedly this will cost the Washington Government or if not, perhaps the threat to interfere with the free importation of labor from the mainland may. As a last resort there is a Kaulla with his resolution to restore the Queen. Evidently the Federal Government is in for a hard time with the Territorial Legislature but if so it can only blame itself. It would have its way about annexation and now see what it gets.

Hawaii is governed by a set of Territorial officers and the Legislature. To add six or eight sets of county officers, two sets of municipal officers and a dozen sets of village officers, would be to devote large sums which are needed for public works to the salary roll without getting any better government than we now have. The city and county of San Francisco use \$2,999,000 per year to pay salaries and wages. In the little city of San Diego hard times following the boom compelled the authorities to screw expenses down to the last notch, yet they could not get off for less than \$10,000 per month in salaries and there were county expenses besides. Nothing is clearer than that county and municipal governments would quadruple taxes here without giving the people better public administration. The only persons to benefit by it would be the professional "Americans" who want offices and who take boastful refuge in their nativity in the same way and for the same reasons that Dr. Johnson's man took refuge in his patriotism.

IS ISLAND CLIMATE UN-HEALTHFUL FOR WOMEN?

(Continued from Page 1.)

served such rapid healing in surgical wounds as I have in this country.

"Of course this is a lazy place. The climate does not inspire one to great energy and one feels more inclined to sit around and take it easy here than he would in colder parts of the world. Generally speaking, however, you can't find a more healthful climate than this and as far as women are concerned it is as well if not better for them here than in the parts where winter reigns a good part of the year. I would say most decidedly in answer to the general question, that this is by no means an unhealthy climate for women coming from other parts of the world to make Honolulu or other places on the islands their homes."

CLIMATE UNEXCELLED.

Dr. C. B. Cooper said: "Speaking of the climate of these Hawaiian Islands I doubt if there is a place on the globe that excels them for salubrity and equableness. As to women more particularly, after several years practice in the so-called cold belt of the Mainland and with ten years' experience in Hawaii, I would say that the health of our women here in general compares most favorably with that of the women in the middle temperate zone."

"While it is true that the latter lead perhaps more active lives, at the same time they are subject to sudden climatic changes and to great extremes in the different seasons, especially in the summer, suffering a great degree of lassitude and debility, while in this city with an average temperature of say 75 degrees, our women dress, diet and exercise accordingly."

"Should a more bracing climate be necessary it is easily obtained on any of the islands, an elevation of 15,000 feet being possible. As for the healthfulness of Honolulu, situated where the trade-winds blow almost continuously and with other natural advantages affording practically an out of door life the year around, and with sea bathing, riding and other pastimes conducive to health, there is no other city in this latitude or any other which can boast of a climate with conditions more favorable for a continuous residence. In connection with this subject I would say that it is a perfect paradise for children."

McMahon Resigns.

P. Maurice McMahon of Hilo, official stenographer of the Fifth and Fifth Circuit Courts, has handed in his resignation and will leave about the first of September for a visit to Japan and probably a tour of Japan that will take him from the islands for some time to come. Mr. McMahon has been suffering for some time past with general troubles and he has decided that the only chance for securing complete recovery is a stay of some length away from the islands. During his recent one here Mr. McMahon has made many friends, and he was especially well known from the songs he had written, the most popular of these being "Fare Hawaii Land."

The Young Men's Christian Association Junior left town for their summer camp in Mauna Valley yesterday afternoon. Their tents and baggage were conveyed in horses, their luggage walked to the scene of rural delight.

"The Thorn Comes Forth With Point Forward."

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CITY OF HONOLULU

SIXTY-EIGHT YEARS AGO

(Continued from Page 1.)

on the 10th of August, we weighed our anchor and got under way and took leave of our friends, who came out in a boat to see us off.

"The King owns one or two small vessels, but no men-of-war. There is little export among the islands, save sundries and that is becoming very scarce and the price much reduced in the Canton market. Many of the natives go on board whalers and other vessels stopping at the islands, so that the Sandwich Islands will have many sailors in course of time. They are said to make remarkably good ones and active ones, too, though they have not that appearance."

"The islands must always be places of interest in the Pacific ocean, lying as they do between the tracks of vessels bound to China and the East Indies from the coast of California, and the whole of South America. They are also important as places of refreshment for whalers after their long and hazardous cruises to capture the sealions of the coast. All these circumstances tend to render the Sandwich Islands of peculiar interest to the navigator of the Pacific. Here, too, the northwest trader, after toiling and chasing the otter on the bleak coast of America, finds a pleasant retreat for the winter months near at hand. Vessels bound across the Pacific, now a track so common, can often find a means to repair the disasters of the sea without being compelled to put back, perhaps thousands of miles or prosecute a voyage rendered dangerous by unforeseen events. During a war, what interest would not these islands hold out to us, as sources of refreshment for our men-of-war, while protecting our commerce, whaling and other interests in these seas?"

"But, independent of all these general views, which must of course be strong in the eyes of every one, and in a national point of view, paramount to individual cultivation of a proper understanding with the natives; we say, independent of all these grand objects, they represent an interesting appearance, as a body of islands springing into existence. To watch the changes of their progress—to see how, step by step, they advance, or why they are retarded—to watch a heathen mind opening into civilized improvement, will always be a matter of keen interest to every philanthropic mind."

MAKING DUE PREPARATIONS.

"Why don't you make your boy read Shakespeare instead of all those profane French novels?"

"We are fitting him to be a theatrical manager."

Notice is given by the Circuit Court that the jury-waived calendar will be called and all cases disposed of before any civil jury cases are heard at the ensuing August term.

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For Japan and China.

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AMERICA MARU	AUG. 10	AMERICA MARU	AUG. 11
AMERICA MARU	AUG. 18	AMERICA MARU	AUG. 19
AMERICA MARU	SEPT. 1	AMERICA MARU	SEPT. 2
AMERICA MARU	SEPT. 15	AMERICA MARU	SEPT. 16
AMERICA MARU	SEPT. 29	AMERICA MARU	SEPT. 30
AMERICA MARU	OCT. 13	AMERICA MARU	OCT. 14
AMERICA MARU	OCT. 27	AMERICA MARU	OCT. 28
AMERICA MARU	NOV. 10	AMERICA MARU	NOV. 11
AMERICA MARU	NOV. 24	AMERICA MARU	NOV. 25

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McDonald, Master, will leave Honolulu every Tuesday at 5 p. m., touching at Lahaina, Kailua, Napoona, Hana, Maui and Kailua, Maui, returning, touches at above named ports, arriving at Honolulu Sunday mornings.

Will call at Napoona, once each month.

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Sails every Monday for Kakaia, Kailua, Maui, Kailua, Maui, Lahaina, Honolulu, Oahu, returning, arrives at Honolulu Saturday mornings.

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This Company will not be responsible for Money or Valuables of passengers unless placed in the care of Purser. Passengers are requested to purchase tickets before embarking. Those failing to do so will be subject to an additional charge of twenty-five per cent.

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